

PRESS RELEASE
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House Members Call for More Tax Relief *Cite Slowing Economy & Burgeoning Surplus*

WASHINGTON – Today Members of the House Republican Study Committee, a group of over 60 House Conservatives, announced their support for a larger, more aggressive tax cut than the proposal put forward by President Bush. The group announced its support as Study Committee Member Pat Toomey (R-PA) and others outlined a proposal to provide over \$2 trillion in total tax relief over the next ten years.

Members of the Study Committee Released the Following Statements:

“The Bush tax cut plan was developed while the economy was growing. Conditions have changed and we are now facing the very real prospect of recession. In light of troubling economic indicators such as recent stock market trends and mounting job loss, it makes sense to supplement and strengthen the Bush plan,” stated **Rep. Jim DeMint (R-SC)**

Rep. John Shadegg (R-AZ) and Chairman of the RSC added, “In the 14 months since Bush first released his tax plan, a lot has changed. Just yesterday we learned that layoffs totaled 142,000 last month, the highest level in eight years. And, just last week we learned that that the government will collect an extra \$900 billion in revenue over the next ten years compared to what we expected just six months ago. All this raises one very simple question, ‘If the American people don’t deserve tax relief now, then when?’”

“I’m concerned about what’s likely to happen to the bulk of the non-Social Security, non-Medicare surplus if it is left in Washington,” said Wisconsin Congressman Paul Ryan. “Chances are that most of it would be spent on growing excess government. I believe taxpayers can put that money to better use. Advancing a substantial tax relief plan is also the *responsible* thing to do under the current economic conditions because it will help spur needed economic recovery and job creation,” stated **Rep. Paul Ryan (R-WI)**

“I strongly support President Bush’s proposal to give every American substantive tax relief. And with new projections indicating that the budget surplus will be \$1 trillion larger than previously anticipated, Congress should go even further -- accelerating the income tax rate reductions,

completely eliminating the marriage tax penalty, and adding health care deductions. I look forward to working with the President to craft and enact this important tax relief package," stated **Rep. Steve Chabot (R-OH)**

"If we truly want to help strengthen families, we must begin by removing any obstacles to their success. It's time to help these working families by eliminating unfair taxes- and where better to start than eliminating a penalty on marriage," stated **Rep. Melissa Hart (R-PA)**

"The Republican Congress must become the Congress of ECONOMIC RECOVERY. President Bush's tax plan PLUS the additional incentives for work and investment contained in the Economic Recovery and Growth Act is the cure for what ails our economy. This bill will achieve economic recovery for the families, small businesses and family farms that make this nation great," stated **Rep. Mike Pence (R-IN)**

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